

**ENGINEERING DIRECTIVE**  
CHIEF ENGINEER**USE OF THE METRIC SYSTEM  
FOR ALL DEPARTMENT PROJECTS AND DOCUMENTS**

Effective June 18, 1995 the Metric System of Measure will be the method of measurement for the Department. All projects where design is started on or after that date shall be designed, estimated, bid, constructed, and maintained in metric units. Projects already under design in the "English System" (foot - pound - second) may continue in that system regardless of expected advertising date provided a waiver is obtained from the Chief Engineer and/or the FHWA.

Metric units will be used exclusively on all Department documents and correspondence, with the exception of Right of Way plans where both metric units and traditional "English System" (foot - pound - second) units will be used.

In order to move into the metric system the following books and manuals have been revised and rewritten in metric units:

The Massachusetts Highway Department Metric Conversion Guide  
The Massachusetts Highway Department Standard Specifications  
for Highways and Bridges  
The Massachusetts Highway Department Construction and  
Traffic Standards  
The Massachusetts Highway Department Bridge Manual - Part I

Other books and manuals will be revised and rewritten in metric units in the near future. Until then the Massachusetts Highway Department Metric Conversion Guide along with existing books and manuals may be used in preparing metric projects.